

Let's Worship God

13th-18th September 2021

Proverbs



trust

Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understand-
ing; in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.

[Proverbs 3:5-6]

Monday -Proverbs 23:1-9 - Think Carefully

Verses 1-3 - How can we apply these verses to our life? By thinking through whatever situation we are in. When you are out with your friends, when you are at work, think about what you are doing, what you are saying. What temptations are you facing; what impression can you make. Be self-controlled. Guard yourself from sin set before you in an attractive way.

Verses 4-5 - This is a warning against covetousness and greed, against loving riches above all else. And what are they in the end? Nothing. You can not take them with you to eternity. The world sees reality in the present, living for the moment. But the Christian is to live always thinking of eternity. This world is a shadow, Heaven is the substance. So, we need to give a shadow of love to things of earth and the substance of our love to the things of eternity.

Verses 6-8 - It puts you off your food being with someone who begrudges you your dinner. Thankfully, God does not begrudge us His food. He invites us to eat and drink from Him, to fill ourselves with His Word and His company, and He means it.

Verse 9 - Jesus told His disciples not to cast their pearls before pigs, and we have the same idea in this verse. If there seems to be hope of someone coming to faith, we need to speak, bringing the Gospel to the worst and unwilling, and not using prudence as an excuse for laziness. But there is a time to keep silent. Some will use our words only to mock God more. Sometimes the time is not right. The safe rule is never to speak without prayer for guidance, simplicity, and love.

Questions

1. How should a Christian see riches?
2. How can we fill ourselves with God's Word?
3. What should we do before we speak to others of Christ?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for opportunities to speak of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day.
Proverbs 23:17

Praise: Psalm 130 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Tuesday - Proverbs 23:10-18 - Covenant Children

Verses 10-11 - We've had this warning before about changing boundaries. God notices those who take advantage of the weak and those unable to defend themselves. He will call us to account for how we have treated our neighbour, our children, our husband or wife, our parents, our co-workers, our employees, our employer, our teachers, and our friends.

Verse 12 - Why does God keep telling us to seek after wisdom, knowledge, and instruction? Because we aren't naturally inclined to, and we need reminding. We need to be told again and again to study God's Word, to pray, to seek the Lord, and to worship. We need to believe it in our heart, so we will listen better with our ears.

Verses 13-14 - We all need discipline. We all learn the hard way. It's the job of parents to give their children this discipline. Do the work wisely, firmly, lovingly. Persevere despite seemingly unsuccessful results. Discipline with prayer, faith, and careful instruction. Yes, it's hard to cause pain to those we love, but how much worse pain is it going to cause if they grow up deliberately sinning, constantly seeking their own way before all else, with no time for God, and on the road to a lost eternity.

Verses 15-16 - What greater joy can Christian parents have than to see their children walking in the ways of God, bearing much fruit for eternal glory. It's a joy all in the church can experience and should pray to see in the lives of our covenant children.

Verses 17-18 - There is no reason to envy unbelievers. Think of life in terms of eternity. What are they going to? What do you have to look forward to? What blessings do you already have - peace and joy and love? We have a hope, a sure and certain hope.

Questions

1. Why do we need to be told so often to seek wisdom?
2. What can bring great joy to Christian parents?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for our covenant children.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Proverbs 23:17

Praise: Psalm 131 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Proverbs 23:19-35 - Temptation

Verses 19-21 - These verses warn against a besetting temptation. God's creatures abuse His gifts. We are warned not to even be among those who are abusing gifts of God whether wine, drugs, food, money, other people, etc. Why? Because it's too easy for us to get involved as well when we are right in the middle of sin. True love for these people is not to join with them in what they are doing, excusing their conduct, but to work for their conversion, to care for their souls and your own.

Verse 22 - It's a joy to see our covenant children walking in the ways of the Lord. It's also a joy to see them respecting, honouring, and obeying their parents. And just like children, younger believers should respect and honour older believers who have taught them so much.

Verses 23-25 - When we have an eternal perspective we should see the things of God as more valuable than anything else. We should pursue them with all we have no matter what cost, and we should train our children to seek after it as well, rejoicing when they grow in faith.

Verses 26-28 - Solomon calls us to give our hearts to God. We are not to be swayed by evil, no matter how attractive. We are not to be lazy and halfhearted in our work, but we need to give our whole hearts to God, loving and obeying His Word and His ways.

Verses 29-35 - What a picture of a man given over to sin. Wisdom tells us to avoid the temptations of sin, no matter how harmless, attractive, or exciting. Crush it in the beginning. It will destroy you in the end if you give in to it. One sin leads the way to another. Soon all will to escape is gone, and it is as though we are sleeping amongst grave dangers, craving our next sin. But is anything too hard for the Lord? He can rescue even those oblivious to their need, giving them new life and hope.

Questions

1. What is the danger of being in the midst of those who are sinning?
2. How can we give our hearts to God?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would withstand the temptations of sin.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Proverbs 23:17

Praise: Psalm 132 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Thursday - Proverbs 24:1-10 - Strong Faith

Verses 1-2 - The world repeatedly tells us that a life of sin is rewarding, fun, and greatly to be desired. But God's Word shows us the true results of sin: misery, unhappiness, broken homes and relationships, no peace, and final destruction. How can we envy that?

Verses 3-6 - The house of the wicked does not last. But building our houses, our lives, all we do, on the Word of God, is to build a lasting foundation. It gives us treasures of peace, joy, and love; it gives us strength to do what is right, to serve our Lord, and to fight against the devil.

Verse 7 - The fool has no desire to learn about God or to speak about God. So, even among those like him, he has no respect. Others do not come to him for advice or help in time of trouble because they can see there is nothing worthwhile there.

Verses 8-9 - If we were left to our own sinful ways, we would be true children of Satan using every ability and thought to do evil and to plan to do evil. God graciously restrains even unbelievers from being as wicked as they could, and He enables His children to live Godly lives.

Verse 10 - It's amazing that unbelievers aren't destroyed by some of the trouble that happens to them - deaths of loved ones, divorce, addictions, but somehow they carry on, often going even farther from God. But the child of God should not falter. The eternal God is his refuge; the arms of God are holding him up, God promises if he calls upon Him, He will hear and help, and is always with him. But we know ourselves, and we know we do falter. Why? Because our faith is weak. We must prepare for hard times by relying on Christ and His strength, not our own, asking from Him grace and strength for each storm.

Questions

1. What is the result of building on the Word of God?
2. How can we prepare for the hard times of life?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would grow in our faith.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Friday - Proverbs 24:11-18 - Responsibility

Verses 11-12 - Across the world millions of unborn children are led to their death. God will call us to account for what we have done to save them. We can't say we don't know that it happens. And it's not just abortion, it's euthanasia, it's Christians being killed in other countries, it's people anywhere being murdered, led to their death unjustly. If we know about it, we're responsible to help them. And how much greater, unbelievers staggering towards destruction, heading to a lost eternity. We know this, and we have to warn them. We will never win the battles against unjust murder if we don't first see men and women come to faith in Christ. We have an awesome and fearful responsibility, and we need to pray to God for the strength to fulfil it.

Verses 13-14 - Honey is good and sweet, so is the knowledge of Christ, without it we are destroyed, and with it we have joy. Honey has to be eaten in order to be experienced, and in the same way we have to have heart knowledge not just head knowledge of Christ to experience the joy and peace He gives. But what we find in Him surpasses our expectations.

Verses 15-16 - Hatred to the righteous is deeply rooted in the wicked man. But he is warned against attacking the people of God. For the children of God, no matter how much trouble they fall into, no matter how much the wicked seem to win, will rise again. Christ will build His Church and He will build His people, and everytime they fall, they will rise again. But for the wicked, one fall is all it takes for God to destroy them.

Verses 17-18 - It takes pride to rejoice over our fallen enemies. Pride that thinks ourselves so much better, that doesn't realise the depths of our own sin. Pray for a humble heart, that recognises grace.

Questions

1. What responsibility do we have toward others?
2. Why is it dangerous to attack the people of God?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's grace to you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Saturday - Proverbs 24:19-29 - Growth

Verses 19-20 - Again and again we are told not to worry about the wicked, not to envy him. Think of what God has given you, think of the mercy and grace you have experienced, and pity rather than envy the wicked.

Verses 21-22 - The Christian is loyal because he is Godly. God's Word tells us to submit to the rulers God has placed over us. But always our primary duty is to obey God first, then men. Where the rule of man comes into conflict with the rule of Christ, our Lord must be obeyed.

Verses 23-26 - Those in authority are not to show partiality. Even unbelievers often hate injustice. But rulers and leaders that rebuke the wicked and praise the righteous, that treat all fairly and honestly, are a blessing and will be respected by their people. You may not be a leader of a country, but you might still be in authority in the church, in your family, at your job. You must be faithful, consistent and honest in all you do.

Verse 27 - The principle here is not to start a job until we are sure we have all the tools we need and have thought it through. This applies to our Christian life as well - do we have the tools we need to grow? Have we thought through what it means to be a Christian, and are we prepared to do it. It applies to the jobs we undertake for Christ - have we thought them through? Will they be our best work?

Verses 28-29 - We may not lie about our neighbours in the witness box, but we may testify against him to others. We may exaggerate what others do wrong, judge them more harshly than we judge ourselves, and jump to all sorts of unloving conclusions about him to others.

Questions

1. Whose law do we obey first?
2. Where do we have the tools we need to grow as a Christian?
3. How can we testify unfairly against others?
4. Who should carry out revenge?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day.
Proverbs 23:17

Praise: Psalm 135 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

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